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E.O. 12958: DECL: 04/29/2018  
TAGS: [PREL](#) [PGOV](#) [PHUM](#) [RW](#)  
SUBJECT: BWINDI ASSURANCES DOCUMENT RECEIVED FROM JUSTICE  
MINISTER

Classified By: DCM Cheryl J. Sim, reason 1.4 (B/D)

11. (C) Mission received on April 29 from Justice Minister Tharcisse Karugarama a Justice Ministry Document entitled "Government of Rwanda Assurances on Bwindi Defendants Leonidas Bimenyimana, Gregoire Nyaminani and Francois Karake." Full text of the document, dated April 29, 2008, appears below:

Begin text:

The Government of Rwanda would like to make the following assurances and guarantees in respect of the Bwindi defendants:

- (1) The Government of Rwanda will provide Mssrs. Bimenyimana, Nyaminani and Karake with all legal and procedural guarantees provided for under Rwanda's Constitution, Rwandan law and Rwanda's international legal obligations, including as a party to the International Covenant on Civil and and Political Rights.
- (2) The government further guarantees that, strick adherence to the principle of due process will be fully respected to the letter in accordance with Rwandan Laws and on the basis of international Law and international standards.
- (3) The Government of Rwanda will grant access upon request, whether or not previously announced, to the U.S. Embassy and/or an agreed third party to visit Mssrs. Bimenyimana, Nyaminani and Karake during any period in which they are in official custody in Rwanda

Sealed with the Public Seal of the Republic of Rwanda

Tharcisse Karugarama  
Minister of Justice/Attorney General

End text.

12. (C) Comment. While the document largely complies with the assurances requested by the United States Government, Mission notes that the document does not make mention of statements or confessions made by the three defendants from 2001 to 2003. Karugarama had informally told Ambassador Arietti several weeks ago that such assurances would present major problems for the GOR. Mission suggests that this document be treated as a basis for negotiations, and a starting point toward a final agreement. End comment.  
ARIETTI